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*What is Claimed is*  
Patent claims

*Sub A5*

1. Communication system having at least one computer device (PC), at least one telecommunication terminal apparatus (TE) and a switching means (PABX) that can be connected to a public telephone network, whereby
- 5 the computer device (PC) and the telecommunication terminal apparatus (TE) are connected via a first bus system (USB),  
the telecommunication terminal apparatus (TE) is connected to the switching means (PABX) via an interface ( $U_{p0/E}$ ),  
the telecommunication terminal apparatus (TE) is provided with a first operating
- 10 mode in which the reception data received from the switching means are rerouted by the telecommunication terminal apparatus to the first bus system (USB), and are forwarded via the first bus system to the computer device (PC),  
the computer device (PC) is provided with means for processing of data received by the telecommunication terminal apparatus, and for the forwarding of these data to the
- 15 telecommunication terminal apparatus via the first bus system, whereby the data are emitted by the telecommunication terminal apparatus,  
characterized in that the first bus system (USB) exhibits a greater bandwidth than a second bus system (IOM-2) that is employed for the connection of individual, internal assemblies of the telecommunication terminal apparatus, and in that, in addition, in
- 20 the first operating mode the transmission data produced by the telecommunication terminal apparatus are forwarded via the first bus system (USB) to the computer device (PC), the computer device processes the received data using the processing means, and the processed transmission data are sent back via the first bus system to the telecommunication terminal apparatus, and the telecommunication terminal apparatus reroutes these data to the corresponding interface, for forwarding to the switching means.
- 25 2. Communication system according to claim 1,  
**characterized in that**

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the processing device of the computer device encodes the transmission data produced by the telecommunication terminal apparatus, and decodes the reception data received from the switching means.

3. Communication system according to claim 1 or 2,

**characterized in that**

the first bus system is realized by a USB bus, and the second bus system is essentially realized by an IOM-2 multiplexer, and all data of the IOM-2 multiplexer are transmitted via

5 the first bus system.

4. Communication system according to claim 3,

**characterized in that**

the computer device (PC) controls the telecommunication terminal apparatus in the first

10 operating mode according to the [...] via a CTRL channel of the IOM-2 multiplexer, the computer device receives items of control information from the telecommunication terminal apparatus -- such as for example the items of information produced during the pressing of particular keys of the telecommunication terminal apparatus -- via a D\* channel of the IOM-2 multiplexer, and the computer device (PC) and the telecommunication terminal apparatus

15 (TE) exchange data via IC channels of the IOM-2 multiplexer.

5. Communication system according to claim 3 or 4,

**characterized in that**

the telecommunication terminal apparatus reroutes the data only between the interface ( $U_{p0/E}$ )

20 and B channels of the IOM/multiplexer.

6. Communication system according to one of claims 1 to 5,

**characterized in that**

the switching means (PABX) is a private branch exchange.

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7. Communication system according to claim 6,

**characterized in that**

the interface ( $U_{p0/E}$ ) is a  $U_{p0/E}$  interface.

30 8. Communication system according to one of claims 1 to 7,

**characterized in that**

the telecommunication terminal apparatus is provided with a second operating mode, in which it is controlled in a conventional manner by the private branch exchange, whereby in this operating mode operation independent of the computer device (PC) is possible.

5 9. Communication system according to one of claims 1 to 6,  
**characterized in that**

the telecommunication terminal apparatus (TE) is a telephone.

10. Communication system according to one of claims 3 to 9,  
**characterized in that**

10 the computer device (PC) is provided with a program that enables simulation of a telephone answering device, whereby the corresponding transmission data represent spoken texts, and the computer device is provided with means for storing these transmission data, in order to enable repeated time-displaced forwarding of the spoken texts to the switching means via the telecommunication terminal apparatus, and  
15 whereby the reception data, which represent messages from callers, are sent by the switching means (PABX) to the computer device via the telecommunication terminal apparatus (TE), are intermediately stored in the computer device, and are forwarded in time-displaced fashion via the telecommunication terminal apparatus, as reception data.

20 11. Communication system according to one of claims 1 to 10,  
**characterized in that**

the computer device (PC) is provided with means for carrying out video conferences, or is connected with corresponding peripheral devices,  
whereby the computer device obtains the reception data from the switching means via  
25 the telecommunication terminal apparatus and divides it into image data and speech data, displays the image data on a display screen of the computer device, and sends the speech data back to the telecommunication terminal apparatus, and

the computer device assembles transmission data from speech data and image data,  
whereby the speech data from a microphone of the telecommunication terminal  
apparatus are transmitted to the computer device via the first bus system, and the  
transmission data are sent to the switching means via the telecommunication terminal  
apparatus.

12. Communication system according to one of claims 1 to 11,

**characterized in that**

the switching means (PABX) corresponds to the ISDN standard.

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hans-Joachim Schmitz".